6369800/2022/VIG-VI-PRR01

GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH
ABSTRACT

Public Services – RWS&S Department – Allegation of irregularities in execution of the work "Augmentation of PWS Schemes in Ungutur Mandal of West Godavari District" against Sri N.Rama Rao, the then Deputy Executive Engineer, V&QC Sub-Division, Eluru, West Godavari District – Disciplinary Proceedings initiated – Inquiry ordered – Imposition of penalty of stoppage of One (1) Annual Grade Increment without cumulative effect – Orders issued – Review Petition filed by Sri N.Rama Rao, Dy. Executive Engineer – Review Petition Allowed – Further action dropped – Orders – issued.

PANCHAYAT RAJ & RURAL DEVELOPMENT (VIG.VI) DEPARTMENT

G.O.Rt.No. 550. **Dated 21.10.2021.**

Read the following:-

1. From the Director General, General Administration (V&E) Dept., Vigilance Report No.8 (C.No.1273/V&E/E2/2013), dated 07.08.2014.
2. G.O.Rt.No.43, P.R. & R.D. (Vig.I) Department, dated 19.01.2016.
3. From Sri N.Rama Rao, the then Dy.E.E., V&QC Sub-Division, Eluru, written statement of defence, dated 26.02.2016.
4. G.O.Rt.No.587, P.R. & R.D. (Vig.VI) Department, dated 10.06.2016.
5. From Sri K.Kishore Kumar, Chief Engineer & Enquiry Officer, V&QC Wing, Vijayawada, letter No.AE1/DEE/VQC/UNGUTUR/2017, dated 03.05.2018 received through letter No.Vig(2)/RWS&S/8933/2015, dated 14.05.2018 of the Engineer-in-Chief, RWS&S, Vijayawada.
6. Govt. Memo. No.16662/Vig.VI/2014, dated 11.09.2018 of P.R. & R.D. (Vig.VI) Department.
7. From Sri N.Rama Rao, the then Dy.Executive Engineer, RWS&S, Eluru, written representation dated 29.10.2018 received through letter No.Vig.II/RWS&S/8933/2015, dated 21.11.2018 of the Engineer-in-Chief, RWS&S, Vijayawada.
8. G.O.Rt.No.442, P.R. & R.D. (Vig.VI) Department, dated 30.07.2020.
9. From Sri N.Rama Rao, the then Dy. Executive Engineer, V&QC Sub-Division, Eluru, Review Petition dated 07.12.2020.
10. Govt. Memo. No.16662/Vig.VI/2020, dated 31.12.2020 of P.R. & R.D. (Vig.VI) Department.
11. From the Engineer-in-Chief, RWS&S, Vijayawada, letter No.PRR06-17/143/2018-VIG & STORES-ECRWSS, dated 11.06.2021.

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O R D E R:

Whereas, in the reference 1st read above, the Director General, G.A.(V&E) Department has recommended to initiate departmental action against Sri N.Rama Rao, the then Dy. Executive Engineer, V&QC Sub-Division, Eluru, West Godavari

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District on the allegations of irregularities in execution of the work "Augmentation of PWS Schemes in Ungutur Mandal of West Godavari District.

2. And whereas, in the G.O.2nd read above, Government have initiated departmental action by framing Articles of Charges against Sri N.Rama Rao, the then Dy.Executive Engineer, V&QC Sub-Division, Eluru.

3. In the reference 3rd read above, the charged officer has submitted his written statement of defence, denying the charge framed against him.

4. As the written statement of defence submitted by the charged officer was not convincing, it was decided to entrust the case to departmental enquiry. Accordingly, in the G.O.4th read above, orders were issued, appointing the Chief Engineer (Vig.), RWS&S, as an Enquiry Officer for conducting regular inquiry into the charge framed against Sri N.Rama Rao, the then Dy. Executive Engineer, V & QC Sub-Division, Eluru and another charged officer involved in the case.

5. In the reference 5th read above, the Enquiry Officer has submitted his Inquiry Report, wherein he has stated that, based on the written statement of defence submitted by the charged officer that "he has not attended the Q.C. due to heavy work load", be considered.

6. Government have examined the report of Enquiry Officer and observed that the Enquiry Officer has not specifically stated whether the charge against Charged Officer is held proved or not. Government have further observed that the estimated cost of the work is about Rs.2000.00 lakhs which means that it is a major and an important work. But, the work was not inspected by the QC Wing officer even though 80% of the work was completed by the time of V&E inspection. The charged officer should have inspected the work and conducted the required quality control tests before making payments by the Executive Engineer. The charged officer himself has admitted in his defence that he has not inspected the above work and as per the above observations that the charge against the charged officer was proved.

7. In the reference 6th read above, while communicating a copy of Enquiry Report along with disagreement factors at para (6) above, the charged officer Sri N.Rama Rao, the then Dy. Executive Engineer was directed to submit his representation on the disagreement factors.

8. In the reference 7th read above, the charged officer Sri N.Rama Rao, the then Dy. Executive Engineer in his written representation has stated that, he was holding three (3) posts and due to lack of supporting staff and huge work load, he could not attend inspection of the said work and requested to drop further action against him.

Contnd...3.

9. The written representation of the charged officer has been examined and observed that he has not submitted any valid explanation and failed to discharge his legitimate duties. Hence, his contention to exonerate him from the charge was devoid of merits. Accordingly, in the G.O.8th read above, orders were issued, imposing a penalty of stoppage of One (1) Annual Grade Increment without cumulative effect against Sri N.Rama Rao, the then Dy. Executive Engineer, V&QC Sub-Division, Eluru under Rule 9(iv) of A.P.Civil Services (Classification, Control & Appeal) Rules, 1991.

10. In the reference 9th read above, the charged officer Sri N.Rama Rao, the then Dy. Executive Engineer in his Review Petition has stated that, while he was working as Dy. Executive Engineer, RWS&S Sub-Division, Eluru, he took full additional charge of the post of PA to Superintending Engineer and the post of Dy.Executive Engineer, V&QC, West Godavari District in addition to normal duties of Dy. Executive Engineer, RWS&S Sub-Division, Eluru on 30.04.2013 A.N., due to superannuation of Sri G.Somasekhar, Dy. Executive Engineer. As per the orders of superior officers, he has been forced to perform three duties at a time from 30.04.2013 A.N. to 18.08.2013 inspite of his health problems. He has further informed that, he inspected maximum number of works irrespective of estimate cost in West Godavari District (inspected 56 nos. of SVS works and 3 nos. of MVS works) inspite of disturbances due to Samaikhya Andhra agitation. Due to heavy work load only and being short period of 3 months and 18 days, he could not inspect the work of "Augmentation of PWS Schemes in Unguturu Mandal of West Godavari District". He has also informed that, there are no quality control lapses in the said work and no financial loss to the Government due to him and there was no negligence in his duties at that time. Finally, he has requested to consider the issue on humanitarian grounds and drop the punishment of stoppage of One (1) annual grade increment without cumulative effect, imposed against him vide G.O.8th read above.

11. In the reference 11th read above, the Engineer-in-Chief, RWS&S, Vijayawada has stated that, the Superintending Engineer, RWS & S Circle, Eluru submitted a report duly stating that the charged officer Sri N.Rama Rao, Dy. Executive Engineer has obeyed and performed three posts at a time. As a Dy.Executive Engineer, RWS&S Sub-Division, Eluru, the individual must be in headquarters duties. Nearly 80% of work was completed before he took the charge of Dy.Executive Engineer, V& QC and that the V&E officials have not pointed out any quality control lapse in the work. He has further stated that, there is no financial loss to the Government during the charge as Dy. Executive Engineer, V&QC of Sri N.Rama Rao. Finally, the Engineer-in-Chief, RWS&S has requested the Government to consider the request of Sri N.Rama Rao, Dy. Executive Engineer on humanitarian grounds, as the said individual is going to be retired from service on 31.10.2021 on attaining the age of superannuation.

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12. Government after careful examination of the matter and keeping in view the above report of Engineer-in-Chief, RWS&S have considered to allow the Review Petition of Sri N.Rama Rao, the then Dy. Executive Engineer on the penalty of stoppage of One (1) Annual Grade Increment without cumulative effect imposed against him, vide G.O.8th read above.

13. Accordingly, Government while allowing the Review Petition of Sri N.Rama Rao, the then Dy. Executive Engineer hereby drop further action against Sri N.Rama Rao, the then Dy. Executive Engineer, V&QC Sub-Division, Eluru, West Godavari District and presently working as Dy. Executive Engineer, RWS&S Sub-Division, Vijayawada, on the grounds mentioned at Para (11) above.

14. The Engineer-in-Chief, RWS&S, Vijayawada shall take further necessary action in the matter, accordingly.

15. The receipt of G.O., shall be acknowledged.

(BY ORDER AND IN THE NAME OF THE GOVERNOR OF ANDHRA PRADESH)

GOPAL KRISHNA DWIVEDI
PRINCIPAL SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

To
Sri N.Rama Rao, the then Dy. Executive Engineer, V&QC Sub-Division, Eluru and presently working as Dy. Executive Engineer, RWS&S Sub-Division, Vijayawada through the Engineer-in-Chief, RWS&S, Vijayawada.
The Engineer-in-Chief, RWS&S, Vijayawada.
Copy to:
The Director General, G.A.(V&E) Dept.
The Secretary to A.P.Vigilance Commission.
SF/SCs.

//FORWARDED::BY ORDER//

SECTION OFFICER